



NEW SOUTH WALES  
RECONCILIATION  
COUNCIL

# Annual Report 2017



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## Acknowledgement of Country

The NSW Reconciliation Council acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout NSW and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to Elders both past and present. We acknowledge the Wangal people as the original custodians of the land on which our office sits.



***The Messengers***

*by Karina Fiddling (Winmalee High School)*

*Highly Commended, NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge 2016*

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## NSW Reconciliation Council

### Who we are

NSWRC is the peak representative body for reconciliation in NSW. Our vision is to create a reconciled, just and equitable community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians in NSW.

Our membership is currently made up of Reconciliation Groups and individuals across NSW. These groups include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and members of the broader community, who work together to advance reconciliation in their communities.

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*Our vision is to create a reconciled, just and equitable community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians in NSW.*

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### What Is Reconciliation?

We support NSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations in the ongoing work of defining meaningful reconciliation for our state. Reconciliation can include:

- Acknowledgment and acceptance of our true shared histories
- Celebration of the unique aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures past and present
- Rejection of racism towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Increased understanding of the impact of racism and systemic disadvantage
- Progress towards institutional and legal mechanisms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination
- Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and culture to thrive.

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## What We Do

Our work brings the goals and spirit of reconciliation into the lives and homes of NSW people. We:

- Raise awareness and understanding of reconciliation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues
- Advocate for social justice, equity and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights.
- Foster the people's movement for reconciliation.

## Our History

NSWRC was formed in 1997 as part of a local, state and national structure to support the legislated process of reconciliation. First known as the NSW State Reconciliation Committee and chaired by Hon. Linda Burney, the Committee provided and continues to provide a bridge between communities and government in the development of reconciliation initiatives in NSW.

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## Co Chairs Report


2017 is the 20th anniversary of the NSW Reconciliation Council. NSWRC was formed in 1997 as part of a local, state and national structure to support the legislated process of reconciliation during the Australian Human Rights Commission National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families and the release of the Bringing them home report.

First known as the NSW State Reconciliation Committee and chaired by Hon. Linda Burney, the Committee provided a bridge between communities and government in the development of reconciliation initiatives in NSW. As the NSWRC we proudly continue to be the peak body for reconciliation in NSW and act as that bridge between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and with government to develop reconciliation initiatives in our state.

Sadly, we have been unable to celebrate this great milestone during 2017. This has been perhaps the most challenging year we have faced as an organisation since 1997. Prolonged negotiations with the Office of Aboriginal Affairs over funding saw us lose our entire staff team as understandably we were unable to provide any certainty for them in their employment. We ultimately signed a three-year funding agreement that will see our funding reduced by half by its completion. The expectation is that NSWRC will attract 'outcomes based' project funding from outside the Office of Aboriginal Affairs, and they have made introductions for us to three other departments which we are pursuing.

In April 2017 we were joined by Danielle Cooper who we have happily shared with ANTaR. Danielle formerly worked with Recognise and brought with her an enviable skills-set and steely determination. Dani has been our sole staff member during most of 2017 and much of her time has been spent liaising with our LRGs and almost single handedly pulling together the Schools Reconciliation Challenge (SRC) which continues to grow from strength to strength. Our friends at Reconciliation Australia (RA) 'loaned' us one of their staff part time for a short period and helped us get on our feet.

Continuing the work of former Co-Chairs Carla McGrath and Kate Brennan, we have actively grown the skills set on the Management Committee and can now boast among our ranks a communications specialist, a former DG of NSW Aboriginal Affairs, a leading community activist, an accountant and a research and evaluation specialist. We are not sure whether our strategic skills as consultants are as beneficial but we seem to add to the general skills mix!



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The Management Committee has worked above and beyond their duties, supporting NSWRC to keep going this year, and providing professional advice and expertise in their own fields. As yet we have been unable to secure a full time Director but are continuing the search and are hoping to have someone in place early in 2018.

In light of the considerable work to secure funding, and our reduced staffing levels and the need to focus on the SRC, many of our annual activities were put on hold in 2017. In partnership with RA we did host the Australian Reconciliation Network in Sydney in March, and in May we brought together the NSW Local Reconciliation Groups for a two-day planning conference. We are determined to be back with a bang in 2018, to continue to grow the SRC and the regional tour with our partners Lend Lease, National Trust, MAAS and Wingaru Education. We are planning on bringing back I'm Not Racist But... and Reconciliation in Parliament bigger and better than before.

We were happy to welcome new Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Sarah Mitchell who has continued in the long line of Ministers from both sides of politics to strongly support NSWRC, and we look forward to working with her over the coming year. It would be remiss of us not to also mention former Minister Leslie Williams here, and her efforts to bring about the NSW Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme.

We pay tribute to our wonderful patron, Auntie Joan Trantor and thank her for her continuing support. We also pay special tribute to Linda Burney in what has been a personally challenging year for her and her family. Our thoughts remain with her and we know her support for NSWRC remains unwavering.

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## 2017 In Review

When we increase community awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and increase community acknowledgement of our shared histories, we pave the way for important social change. Progress towards social equality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in this state cannot come about without improved community understanding of the issues faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in NSW.

Our 2017 projects, outlined below, have provided the people of NSW opportunities for better awareness of cultures and histories, and better understanding of the need for redress and healing.

### Schools Reconciliation Challenge (SRC)

The SRC is an education project aimed at primary and secondary school students in reconciliation. Each year a theme is selected for students to focus their study and creative engagement with the SRC on. For 2017 the theme is *Where's Your Country?* This theme was chosen to encourage students to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander connections to Country, the local Aboriginal histories and cultures where they live and go to school and to inspire young people to share their own stories, connections to Country or places that are special to them.

The SRC program works with educational institutions across NSW, providing educators with comprehensive teaching resources and activities around reconciliation. The competition has traditionally been an art competition - however, following the success of the introduction of the short stories component in 2016 schools the NSWRC has continued to develop the writing component of the SRC via the SRC website and writing workshops for school students. The competition uses art and writing as vehicles for engagement in reconciliation and assists educators to teach their students about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues in an informed, meaningful and culturally appropriate manner. Additionally, the SRC helps to build and strengthen relationships between schools and local Aboriginal communities.





***Change In Time***

*by Lilian Petrovski (Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School)*

*First Prize, High School Art Schools Reconciliation Challenge 2017*

### **Steady growth, broadening and deepening engagement every year**

Each year we continue to be amazed by the talent and insight that young people, from many different backgrounds, share with us through their artwork and writing for the SRC. In 2017, 122 school registered to participate in the SRC, including public, private and independent schools and our first two homeschool groups. This year we received 281 entries from 37 different schools, consisting of 221 art entries and 60 writing entries from Primary and Secondary schools including 7 entries from students who participated in the SRC as individuals.

### **Expanding the Reach and Deepening Engagement – SRC Website**

In 2017, for the first time in the history of the competition the NSWRC launched the SRC website [www.schoolsreconciliation.org.au](http://www.schoolsreconciliation.org.au). The SRC website is now the primary mode for the delivery of the SRC to young people and schools across NSW and has enabled the NSWRC to increase the reach of the program. The website provides schools with online lesson plans developed in consultation with the NSW Board of Studies Educational Standards (BOSTES) to curriculum objectives, culturally competent teaching resources and an online portal for art and writing submissions. The website also provides students and teachers with online galleries of winning art and writing entries from previous years and art and writing exercises to help inspire and guide students through the creative process.

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## Partnerships

The SRC is supported by a wide range of partners that make it possible for the NSWRC to deliver this program to young people across NSW. In 2017 the NSWRC partnered with **Lendlease** and **Principle Co** to produce the SRC website, welcomed a new partnership with **Wingaru Education** and continued to build on existing partnerships with **National Trust**, the **Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS)** and **Sydney Story Factory**.

MAAS have been a key partner of the SRC since 2016, hosting the writing workshops for the SRC and the SRC exhibition launch. This year the NSWRC ran 5 workshops in partnership with MAAS and the Sydney Story Factory to support students in sharing their stories and developing their writing skills through drama games and story development activities and techniques. The workshops were delivered directly to the classrooms of schools across NSW via MAAS' state of the art video conferencing facilities and were presented by the talented story teller John Blair from Sydney Story Factory.

The Blue Mountains region continues to be an area with extensive engagement with the SRC program this is thanks to the NSWRC partners **Mountains Outreach Centre (MOCs)** and the fabulous art workshops that they run for schools to participate in the SRC art making component guided by local Aboriginal Artists. This year the art workshops engaged 6 schools and 200 Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. In the future NSWRC hopes to expand these art and writing workshop models and deliver them to other regional centres across NSW.

The NSWRC is delighted to be building a partnership with **Wingaru Education** for the SRC. Wingaru Education's online learning platform, Wingaru Kids, supports the delivery of Aboriginal perspectives in education and this year Wingaru Education offered the winning primary school students of the SRC art and writing competitions a 12 month subscription to Wingaru Kids for their school to enjoy. The NSWRC looks forward to developing this partnership with Wingaru Education for the SRC next year.

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## SRC 2016-17 Regional Tour

In 2016 and 2017, the NSWRC and the **National Trust** joined forces to present a state-wide tour of the award-winning artworks from SRC. The SRC regional tour for 2016 was a great success showcasing the incredible talent of these young artists and writers at the beautiful National Trust venues across NSW. The SRC regional tour for 2017 will commence on Friday 1 December 2017 at Observatory Hill, Sydney and will then travel to Armidale, Tomago, Dubbo, Western Sydney, the Blue Mountains and Yass. The regional tour continues to be an important opportunity to make the SRC artworks and stories accessible to schools and residents of regional NSW. The works, launch events and exhibitions facilitate important discussions about the ongoing importance of reconciliation, on both a local and national level.

Regional Tour National Trust Venues and Dates:

- **National Trust Centre** – Observatory Hill, Sydney (Friday 1 - Friday 22 December 2017)
- **Armidale** - Saumarez Homestead - (Friday 2 - Wednesday 28 Feb 2018)
- **Tomago** – Tomago House (Monday 5 - Friday 30 March 2018)
- **Dubbo** – Dundullimal Homestead (Tuesday 1 - Saturday 26 May 2018)
- **Western Sydney** – Experiment Farm Cottage, Parramatta (Date TBC)
- **Blue Mountains** – Everglades House and Garden, Leura (Friday 3 - Friday 31 August 2018)
- **Yass** – Cooma Cottage (Friday 14 September - Sunday 7 October)

For the SRC Regional Tour the National Trust in partnership with the NSWRC were nominated in two categories for the 2017 IMAGinE Awards for Museums and Galleries of NSW. The first nomination was in the category of Exhibition Projects for Museums and the second nomination was for Engagement Programs. The awards ceremony was held on Friday, 10 November 2017 at the Australian Museum.

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## Events

### **Australian Reconciliation Network (ARN) Conference in Sydney**

NSWRC hosted the ARN Conference in Sydney in early March 2017. This conference brings together Reconciliation Australian and state based reconciliation councils from all over the nation to discuss the ever-changing spaces of reconciliation in Australia and its importance for nationwide engagement, as well as providing a learning opportunity for all involved. It is an opportunity for reconciliation peak bodies to come together and share the experiences of reconciliation and their work across their state in local communities and discuss interstate collaboration efforts and government support initiatives.

### **Local Reconciliation Groups (LRGs) Conference**

On Thursday, 11 and Friday, 12 May 2017 the NSWRC hosted a conference that brought together representatives from all of the LRGs at the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence. The two-day conference consisted of sessions on NSWRC updates, current activities of the LRGs and discussions regarding resources and opportunities for collaboration. Day 1 of the conference was facilitated by Lindon Coombes and included a panel discussion with Jody Broun (NSWRC Board Member), Mark Yettica-Paulson (Recognise Joint Campaign Director) and a session on campaign training with Patrick Batchelor (Recognise Field Manager). Day 2 of the LRG conference, facilitated by Cecelia Anthony began with a walking tour of Redfern with Aunty Donna Ingram and focused on resources and supports for LRGs. The main outcomes of the conference included information sharing about activities and developing and renewing the ways in which the NSWRC and the LRGs communicate and work together to achieve our common purpose.

### **SRC Exhibition Launch**

The SRC exhibition launch was held on Tuesday, 24 October 2017, and celebrated and acknowledged the wonderful contributions of students and teachers to the 2017 SRC. The morning tea exhibition launch included a Welcome to Country conducted by Aunty Donna Ingram and speeches from special guests the Hon. Sarah Mitchell (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Early Childhood Education and Assistant Minister for Education) Marcus Hughes (Head of Indigenous Engagement and Strategy) and Cecilia Anthony (NSWRC Co Chair).

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## Organisational Collaboration

### Justice Reinvestment in NSW

NSWRC continues to be an active voice in the justice reinvestment movement in NSW. NSWRC will continue to play a role in activating the community and government to address the over-representation of Aboriginal people in prison.

### Constitutional recognition

NSWRC fostered a strong partnership with Recognise to research, advocate and campaign for constitutional recognition in 2017.

Core to our community up advocacy efforts, NSWRC hosted a regional Local Reconciliation Group workshop to equip groups and members across the state in the growing campaign for a 'yes' vote in 2017. This workshop was informed by internal research and was underlined by training Local Reconciliation Group members to actively and effectively engage with or run constitutional recognition campaigns across the state, including education around cultural sensitivities of the Recognise movement and models of treaty.

### Community engagement and education in the service of Indigenous veterans

NSWRC continues to show its support for Indigenous servicemen and women. This is a project that Management Committee member Dominic Wy Kanak will be advancing in 2018. We provide financial support the NSW RSL annually in the form of a small donation and are planning to discuss a more formalised partnership from 2018 that may include in-kind staff support for the event.

## Policy and advocacy

Building capacity in research and advocacy has been a core focus for 2017. Our continued success in building strong relationships with organisations operating in Aboriginal affairs in NSW reflects the standing and perceived importance of NSWRC across key policy issues. This includes justice reinvestment, reparations, freedom of speech, constitutional recognition and treaty, among others. These discussions and relationships are vital resources for the state government.

### Change the Record: Smarter Justice Safer Communities

In November 2017 NSWRC joined 100 other organisations in signing an Open Statement to the Prime Minister, Premiers and Chief Ministers calling for national action on the Report of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory. Coordinated by Change the Record co-chairs Antoinette Braybrook and Cheryl Axelby, the statement calls on the Australian Government, working with the Northern Territory Government and other State and Territory governments through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), to seize the landmark opportunity presented by the Royal Commission to:

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Work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their representative bodies to deliver a comprehensive and ongoing response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission

Lead national reform through COAG of youth justice systems, laws, policies and practices. This must build on the recommendations of the Royal Commission, with a view to developing national minimum benchmarks for laws and policies

Prioritise this issue as a standing item at future COAG meetings to ensure an ongoing comprehensive Commonwealth, State and Territory response to this pressing national issue

Ensure there is independent oversight and monitoring of the implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

### **Involvement in the Inquiry into Freedom of Speech**

NSWRC and 20 Local Reconciliation Groups across NSWRC joined together to support 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act in a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Freedom of Speech. The collaboration acknowledges growing awareness and understanding of racism – especially in regional Australia. Drawing on findings from the 2016 Scanlon Foundation Mapping Social Cohesion Survey and Reconciliation Australia’s annual Reconciliation Barometer, the submission urged the Federal Government to recognise the importance of protecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in this country from racist hate speech.

NSWRC were thrilled that the Turnbull Government's bid to amend section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act to make it lawful to offend, insult and intimidate others based on race was voted down by the Senate in March 2017.

### **Reparations and the Stolen Generations in NSW**

The last quarter of 2016 saw NSWRC continue its contribution to reparations conversations by joining forces with the 17 organisations that also made submissions to the recent inquiry to write to then Premier Baird. Working collaboratively with these 17 organisations to progress outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in NSW was a priority for the NSWRC Management Committee in 2017.

NSWRC continued to work with the following partners in 2017:

- Kinchela Boys Home
- Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Memory Project
- Clarence Valley Healing
- NSW Aboriginal Land Council
- Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care Secretariat

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- ANTaR NSW
  - Law Society of NSW
  - NSW Council of Social Service
  - Link-Up
  - Kingsford Legal Centre
  - Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council
  - Redfern Legal Centre
  - RANZCP NSW Branch Committee
  - Civil Liberties Australia
  - Reconciliation for Western Sydney
  - Shoal Coast Community Legal Centre
  - Reconciliation Australia
  - Public Interest Advocacy Centre

### **Support for National Congress of First Peoples**

A collaborative relationship has been developed between the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples (Congress) and the NSW Reconciliation Council. NSWRC and Congress have collaborated in the policy realm, for example, by joining forces to present evidence at the NSW committee hearings on Stolen Generations reparations. This activity was firmly in NSW Reconciliation Council's domain as it was focused on NSW and contributed to the recognition of historical truths, essential to the reconciliation process.

These actions have directly benefited Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by supporting their organisations and contributing to policy analysis, policy development, advocacy and dissemination.

### **Reconciliation in Parliament**

Reconciliation in Parliament is the result of an ongoing partnership with ANTAR NSW and is the current incarnation of the Friends in Parliament agreement that began in 2006. Reconciliation in Parliament continues to be a fruitful government engagement strategy with an engagement event for those involved being held once a year with rotating responsibility for coordination shared between NSWRC and ANTAR NSW.

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## Membership and Local Reconciliation Group engagement

In 2016-17, NSWRC has continued to focus attention on expanding community outreach. Specifically, we have prioritised reaching those outside of the existing reconciliation space and engage new community members and stakeholders.

With over 1,200 members and 25 Local Reconciliation Groups across NSW, NSWRC has focused on organisation-member relations in this financial reporting period. This includes our inclusive attitude to advocacy on behalf of these groups, the Annual General Meeting held in December 2016 and plans to engage and consult with Local Reconciliation Groups in the first 6 months of 2017 to develop strategies around community mobilisation and advocacy at a grassroots level.

Twenty Local Reconciliation Groups signed on to our submission into the Inquiry into Freedom of Speech. NSWRC have also increased staff-member communication via newsletters and social media, and increased communication directly between the Co-Chairs and the LRGs.

### Supporting Local Reconciliation Groups

In order to engage meaningfully with our current Local Reconciliation Groups, we played a supporting role during National Reconciliation Week 2017. Local Reconciliation groups voiced their endorsement of this plan at the 2016 Annual General Meeting. We recognise the importance of not only participating in these events, but actively publicising them to the broader NSW community, through social media and newsletters, which Local Reconciliation Groups may not have capacity and scope to do. NSWRC has again received a \$5,000 grant LRW from Reconciliation Australia which was passed on in the form of small grants to LRGs to support their local Reconciliation week activities in May 2017.

### Newsletter and Social Media

Our newsletter and social media posts are an important part of our strategy to engage members across all generations and platforms. Our newsletter aims to engage members with our activities and planned events while our social media strategy is focused on engaging with current news affairs surrounding the discussion of reconciliation on a state and national level. Our social media statistics have experienced a spike in member and non-member engagement over the past 6 months, emphasising its important role in the cyber focused realm of engagement.



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## Partnerships

### Partnership with The Centre for Cultural Competence Australia (CCCA)

NSWRC partners with CCCA which specialises in online Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural competence training. Courses are foundation-level, non-confrontational, and self-paced. CCCA is a national organisation that provides powerful resources in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural competence training and organisational development. Founded by professionals and experts within the fields of Indigenous research and development, technology, and communications, CCCA is committed to building the cultural competence of individuals, service providers, organisations, and State and Federal Government Departments.

NSWRC receives a 20% commission from all CCCA purchases which occur through our joint website. We expect to receive more interest in this course in 2017 with CCCA's recent BOSTES course accreditation. CCCA's course in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Competence will now contribute 10 hours of QTC Registered PD addressing 1.4.2, 2.4.2 and 6.2.2 from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW.

### RAP consulting

NSWRC prioritised its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Consultancy in 2016-17 with the support of Reconciliation Australia. This project stemmed from the NSWRC 2015/2016 strategic plan and has seen the emergence of a small, yet promising NSWRC consultancy arm to provide advice to corporate and other organisations on the implementation of RAPs. Under this project, NSWRC consultants act as brokers between corporate entities and the community sector.

With assistance from Reconciliation Australia, NSWRC implemented its first successful RAP at OMD Media in 2016.

Reconciliation Australia has offered further staff training as soon as a new Director has been recruited. The RAP consulting will recommence in 2018.

### Cultural Perspectives Group

Since 2016 the Cultural Perspectives Group led by Pino Migliorino AM has been supporting NSWRC by giving us access to their board room for Management Committee meetings free of charge. In March 2017, knowing NSWRC was trying to find premises that would lower our overheads each month, Pino offered space in his offices on Norton St, Leichhardt at a much reduced rate to what NSWRC had been paying. NSWRC has been co-located with Cultural Perspectives Group since then, and are grateful not only for the financial benefits of the move but for the professional supports provided within the office for our team.

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# Membership

## Our numbers

The people and communities of NSW have consistently shown strong support for reconciliation activities. This is demonstrated in our large membership numbers and in our breadth of reach across NSW.

Our membership comprises:

- Local Reconciliation Groups (LRGs)
- Individual members.

## Our individual members

More than 1200 people are individual members of the NSW Reconciliation Council as at February 2017. These individuals provide support to a range of reconciliation activities in their communities.

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*The people and communities of NSW have consistently shown strong support for reconciliation activities. This is demonstrated in our large membership numbers and in our breadth of reach across NSW.*

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## Our Groups

Local Reconciliation Groups (LRGs) contain multiple individuals. They work as groups to initiate and motivate reconciliation activities in their local communities across NSW.

In 2017, NSWRC has 25 active LRGs across NSW, as follows:

- Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation Harbour to Hawkesbury Australians for Reconciliation
- North Illawarra Reconciliation and Treaty Group
- Wingecarribee Reconciliation Group
- Women's Reconciliation Network
- Aboriginal Support Group – Manly Warringah Pittwater
- ANTaR Inner West
- Bennelong and Surrounds Residents for Reconciliation
- Hornsby Area Residents for Reconciliation
- Lane Cove Residents for Reconciliation
- Mosman Reconciliation Group
- Mt Druitt and Districts Reconciliation Group
- Reconciliation for Western Sydney Inc.
- Reconciliation Network Northern Sydney Region
- Sutherland Shire Reconciliation
- Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group Minto
- ANTaR Armidale
- Friends of Myall Creek Memorial
- Kyogle Reconciliation Group
- Moree Reconciliation Group
- Nyerna Deniliquin Group
- Parkes Reconciliation Group
- Pioneer Reconciliation Group
- Projects for Reconciliation
- Sisters for Reconciliation (Northern Rivers)
- Cavanbah Reconciliation Group

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# Governance and Operations

## Management Committee

The NSW Reconciliation Council is managed by a Board (Management Committee) of eight members, elected annually by our membership at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Management Committee act in a voluntary capacity and oversee the operations of the NSW Reconciliation Council office, the management of reconciliation projects and our campaigns. At least 50% of the Management Committee must be Indigenous, with one Indigenous Co-Chair and one non-Indigenous Co-Chair. The management committee in 2106/2017 has been as follows:

### Lindon Coombes (Indigenous Chair)

Lindon has worked in Aboriginal Affairs for over 18 years in a range of positions. Prior to joining PwC's Indigenous Consulting (PIC) in January 2014, he was the CEO of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, a representative body that provides a national voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Previous to these positions, he was CEO of Tranby Aboriginal College in Glebe, the oldest Indigenous education institution in Australia. He has also worked in a range of roles in the NSW Government. The last position held there was in the Senior Executive Service as Executive Director of Policy and Research at the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs. He also acted in the position of Director General of the Department on a number of occasions. He has worked for ATSIC and spent a number of years as Senior Policy Advisor to successive Ministers for Aboriginal Affairs in the NSW Government.

### Cecilia Anthony (Non-Indigenous Chair)

Cecilia Anthony is a strategic expert with a professional background in training, advocacy and campaigning, politics and policy. She has worked extensively in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy development in government and at NGO level. Cecilia is a former Principal Policy Officer with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs where she was responsible for economic development and employment policy. In recent years Cecilia has worked with the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, responsible for developing and implementing their Government Relations Strategy. Between 2007 and 2011 Cecilia worked as a senior advisor to the New South Wales Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. She also advised former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on the establishment of the National Apology Foundation. Cecilia is now the Director of consulting firm Diverse Werks.

### Deborah Soler (Treasurer)

Deborah is an experienced leader with over 20 years' experience developing and strengthening financial and corporate management practices in corporate and not for profit environments with strength in operational and people management. Her objective on the Management Committee is to make a valuable contribution within a dynamic and socially responsible organisation.

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### **Dominic Wy Kanak (Member)**

Dominic Wy Kanak is a paralegal, law student and Native Title Consultant (NTC). He has been an Indigenous boondi boondi Bondi Ward Waverley Greens Councillor since September 1999. He has served as Co-Chairperson of Waverley Council's Multicultural Advisory Committee and the Mayor's Nominee and Chairman of the Eastern Region Local Government Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Forum on behalf of Dominic's policy interests include Protection of Community/Native Title/Crown Land & Water, Reconciliation, Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Local Government, 'Green' Sustainability, and Social Justice Advocacy for Our Community's vulnerable marginalised and isolated People.

### **Jody Broun (Member)**

Jody Broun has vast experience working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs having held a number of roles at the state and national levels, including senior executive and elected roles throughout her career. She began working life as a teacher at Clontarf Aboriginal College in WA and went on to hold the positions of Executive Director Aboriginal Housing and Infrastructure and Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment with the WA Government. Jody moved to NSW to take up the position of Deputy Director General in the Department Aboriginal Affairs, becoming DG nine months later. In 2015, she completed a two-year term as then first elected female co-chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples. I am currently the NSW Director of Australian Red Cross. Jody has held a number of community based positions and is also a practicing artist, having exhibited nationally and internationally. In 1998, I won the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award and the 2005 Canberra Art Award.

Jody brings policy development, program administration and community engagement experience.

### **Fiona Britton (Member)**

Dr Fiona Britton is a strategic communications consultant with more than 20 years' experience. She has worked in government, corporate and NGO sectors and has a passion for social justice

### **Alison Faure-Brac (Member)**

Over the past 20 years Alison has conducted research and evaluation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Alison has particular expertise in program evaluation and in collaborative and participatory approaches. Much of her work has looked at the drivers of social change, and what enables the success of initiatives that aim to create positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.

## **Staff**

The NSW Reconciliation Council's operations are carried out by a small team of staff, interns and volunteers at our office in Leichhardt, Sydney. The team is currently seeking a director, and currently comprises a part time Project Manager.



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# Financial Statements

## Responsible Entities' Report

The Responsible Entities of New South Wales Reconciliation Council present their Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2017 and the Independent Audit Report thereon.

### Responsible Entities details

The following persons were Responsible Entities of New South Wales Reconciliation Council during or since the end of the financial year.

#### **Lindon Coombes**

##### ***Indigenous Chair***

Lindon has worked in Aboriginal Affairs for over 18 years in a range of positions. Prior to joining PwC's Indigenous Consulting (PIC) in January 2014, he was the CEO of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, a representative body that provides a national voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Previous to these positions, he was CEO of Tranby Aboriginal College in Glebe, the oldest Indigenous education institution in Australia. He has also worked in a range of roles in the NSW Government. The last position held there was in the Senior Executive Service as Executive Director of Policy and Research at the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs. He also acted in the position of Director General of the Department on a number of occasions. He has worked for ATSIC and spent a number of years as Senior Policy Advisor to successive Ministers for Aboriginal Affairs in the NSW Government.

#### **Cecilia Anthony**

##### ***Non-Indigenous Chair***

Cecilia Anthony is a strategic expert with a professional background in training, advocacy and campaigning, politics and policy. She has worked extensively in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy development in government and at NGO level. Cecilia is a former Principal Policy Officer with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs where she was responsible for economic development and employment policy. In recent years Cecilia has worked with the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, responsible for developing and implementing their Government Relations Strategy. Between 2007 and 2011 Cecilia worked as a senior advisor to the New South Wales Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Cecilia is now a senior consultant for Diverse Werks.

#### **Deborah Soler**

***Treasurer*** - Elected on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Deborah is an experienced leader with over 20 years of experience in developing and strengthening financial and corporate management practices in corporate and not for profit environments with strength in operational and people management. Her objective on the Management Committee is to make a valuable contribution within a dynamic and socially responsible organisation.

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### **Jody Broun**

**Ordinary Members Indigenous** Elected on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Jody Broun has vast experience working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs having held a number of roles at the state and national levels, including senior executive and elected roles throughout her career. She began working life as a teacher at Clontarf Aboriginal College in WA and went on to hold the positions of Executive Director Aboriginal Housing and Infrastructure and Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment with the WA Government. Jody moved to NSW to take up the position of Deputy Director General in the Department Aboriginal Affairs, becoming DG nine months later. In 2015, she completed a two-year term as then first elected female co-chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples. I am currently the NSW Director of Australian Red Cross. Jody has held a number of community based positions and is also a practicing artist, having exhibited nationally and internationally. In 1998, I won the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award and the 2005 Canberra Art Award.

Jody brings policy development, program administration and community engagement experience.

### **Dominic Wy Kanak**

**Ordinary Members Indigenous** - Elected on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dominic Wy Kanak is a paralegal, law student and Native Title Consultant (NTC). He has been an Indigenous boondiboondi Bondi Ward Waverley Greens Councillor since September 1999. He has served as Co-Chairperson of Waverley Council's Multicultural Advisory Committee and the Mayor's Nominee and Chairman of the Eastern Region Local Government Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Forum on behalf of Dominic's policy interests include Protection of Community/Native Title/Crown Land & Water, Reconciliation, Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Local Government, 'Green' Sustainability, and Social Justice Advocacy for Our Community's vulnerable marginalised and isolated People.

### **Fiona Britton**

**Ordinary Members non-Indigenous**

Dr Fiona Britton is a strategic communications consultant with more than 20 years' experience. She has worked in government, corporate and NGO sectors and has a passion for social justice.

### **Alison Faure-Brac**

**Ordinary Members non-Indigenous**

Over the past 20 years Alison has conducted research and evaluation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Alison has particular expertise in program evaluation and in collaborative and participatory approaches. Much of her work has looked at the drivers of social change, and what enables the success of initiatives that aim to create positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.

The following persons resigned during the financial year.

Gerard Sullivan (Treasurer) resigned on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Clark Donovan (Secretary) resigned on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Zoe Betar (Ordinary Members Indigenous) resigned on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Rebeckah Mooney (Ordinary Members Indigenous) resigned on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2016



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### **Principal activities**

New South Wales Reconciliation Council raises awareness and understanding of reconciliation and Indigenous issues, advocates for social justice, equity and Indigenous rights and grows and supports the people's movement for reconciliation.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

### **Members' liabilities**

The association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) and is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). If the association is wound up, the constitution states that the liability of a member of the association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the members in respect of membership. At 30 June 2017, there was no outstanding membership.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Responsible Entities.



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Lindon Coombes  
Responsible Entity  
Date: 01 December 2017



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Cecilia Anthony  
Responsible Entity  
Date: 01 December 2017

**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other  
Comprehensive Income for the Year  
Ended 30 June 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities	2	310,017	372,450
Expenses from ordinary activities	3	(289,070)	(414,877)
<b>Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities before income tax</b>		<b>20,947</b>	<b>(42,427)</b>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Provision for income tax expense/(benefit) attributable to surplus/(deficit)		-	-
<b>Surplus/(deficit) after income tax</b>		<b>20,947</b>	<b>(42,427)</b>

## Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	80,394	73,855
Receivables	5	134,750	134,750
Inventory	6	1,334	554
Prepayments	7	3,051	3,067
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>219,529</b>	<b>212,226</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Equipment	8	2,492	2,016
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>2,492</b>	<b>2,016</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>222,021</b>	<b>214,242</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	9	26,372	13,428
Current tax liabilities	10	7,258	15,829
Provisions	11	-	7,585
Payment received in advance	12	125,280	135,237
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>158,911</b>	<b>172,079</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>158,911</b>	<b>172,079</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>63,110</b>	<b>42,163</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Accumulated surplus		63,110	42,163
<b>Accumulated Funds at the end of the year</b>		<b>63,110</b>	<b>42,163</b>

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## Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	<b>Accumulated Funds</b>
<b>Balance at 01<sup>st</sup> July 2015</b>	<b>84,590</b>
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax for the year	(42,427)
<b>Balance at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016</b>	<b>42,163</b>
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax for the year	20,947
<b>Balance at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017</b>	<b>63,110</b>

## Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30th June 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Cash Flow From Operating Activities</b>			
Cash received from Grants, Donations and other activities		309,627	382,281
Payments to suppliers and employees		(302,239)	(477,974)
Interest received		390	159
Interest charges		-	(5)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	13	<u>7,778</u>	<u>(95,539)</u>
<b>Cash Flow From Investing Activities</b>			
Payments for office equipment		(1,239)	(1,144)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(1,239)</u>	<u>(1,144)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		6,539	(96,683)
Cash at the beginning of the year		<u>73,855</u>	<u>170,538</u>
Cash at the end of the year		<u>80,394</u>	<u>73,855</u>

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## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2017

### 1. Statement of significant accounting Policies

New South Wales Reconciliation Council is an association incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) and is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on a general purpose financial report. The financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

New South Wales Reconciliation Council is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2017 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Responsible Entities on 01 December 2017.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements, except for cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

#### 1.2 New and amended standards adopted by the association

The association has adopted all the amendments to Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective as of 01 July 2015. None of the amendments have had a significant impact on the association.

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### **1.3 Issued standards and interpretations not early adopted**

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted by the association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2017, unless otherwise stated.

### **1.4 Accounting estimates and judgements**

The preparation of the financial report requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may be substantially different. In preparing the financial report, the significant judgements made by management in applying the association's accounting policies and the key sources of estimation uncertainty were the same as those that applied to the financial report for the previous financial year.

### **1.5 Significant accounting policies**

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### **(a) Revenue**

Revenue comprises revenue from grants, donations, fundraising activities, membership fees, commissions, interest and the sale of goods.

Revenue is measured by reference to the fair value of consideration received or receivable by the association for the goods supplied and services provided, excluding Goods and Services Tax, rebates, and discounts.

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, collection is probable, the costs incurred or to be incurred can be measured reliably, and when the criteria for each of the association's different activities have been met. Details of the activity-specific recognition criteria are described below.

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## **Grants**

A number of the association's programs are supported by grants received from the state and local governments, and other grantors.

If conditions are attached to a grant which must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue is deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Where a grant is received on the condition that specified services are delivered, to the grantor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction. Revenue is recognised as services are performed and at year-end until the service is delivered.

Revenue from a non-reciprocal grant that is not subject to conditions is recognised when the association obtains control of the funds, economic benefits are probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Where a grant may be required to be repaid if certain conditions are not satisfied, a liability is recognised at year end to the extent that conditions remain unsatisfied.

Where the association receives a non-reciprocal contribution of an asset from a government or other party for no or nominal consideration, the asset is recognised at fair value and a corresponding amount of revenue is recognised.

## ***Donations and income from fundraising activities***

Monies received from fundraising activities and donations collected, including cash and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the association gains control, economic benefits are probable and the amounts can be measured reliably.

## ***Sale of goods***

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the control of goods passes to the customer.

## ***Interest and other income***

Interest and other income are recognised when received or receivable.

## **(b) Operating expenses**

Operating expenses are recognised in profit or loss upon utilisation of the service or at the date of their origin.



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### **(c) Equipment**

Equipment (comprising furniture and office equipment) is initially recognised at acquisition cost or manufacturing cost, including any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the association's management.

Equipment is subsequently measured using the cost model, cost less subsequent depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis to write down the cost less estimated residual value of equipment. The following useful lives are applied:

- Furniture: 2 - 3 years
- Computers and other office equipment: 2 - 3 years

### **(d) Inventory**

Goods for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No value is ascribed to goods for resale that have been donated to the association where fair value cannot be reliably determined. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less any discount.

### **(e) Income tax**

No provision for income tax has been raised for the year as the association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

### **(f) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, together with other short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

### **(g) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amount expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash out flows to be made for those entitlements.

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## **(h) Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets**

Provisions are recognized when New South Wales Reconciliation Council has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that the outflow of economic benefit will result and that the outflow can be measured reliably.

No liability is recognised if an outflow of economic resources as a result of present obligation is not probable. Such situations are disclosed as contingent liabilities, unless the outflow of resources is remote in which case no liability is recognised.

## **(i) Payment received in advance (deferred income)**

The liability for deferred income is the unutilised amounts of grants received on the condition that specified services are delivered or conditions are fulfilled. The services are usually provided or the conditions usually fulfilled within twelve (12) months of receipt of the grant. Where the amount received is in respect of services to be provided over a period that exceeds twelve (12) months after the reporting date or the conditions will only be satisfied more than twelve (12) months after the reporting date, the liability is discounted and presented as non-current.

## **(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST components of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

## **(k) Economic dependence**

The association is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of State Government grants and community and corporate donations to ensure the ongoing continuance of its programs. At the date of this report management has no reason to believe that this financial support will not continue in the 2018 financial year.

## **(l) Comparative figures**

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

## 2. Revenue

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
<b>Revenue:</b>		
NSW State Government Grant	274,457	286,349
Other Grants and Donations	15,870	81,867
Merchandise sales	910	527
Tickets	-	2,143
Other income	18,390	1,405
Interest received	390	159
	<b>310,017</b>	<b>372,450</b>

## 3. Expenses

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Employee Expenses	139,400	259,129
Other Operational Costs	149,671	155,748
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>289,070</b>	<b>414,877</b>

## 4. Cash and cash equivalents

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	80,394	73,855

## 5. Receivables

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Grant Receivable	134,750	134,750

## 6. Inventory

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Merchandise	1,334	554

## 7. Prepayments

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Worker compensation insurance	867	-
Public Liability insurance	2,184	2,143
Office Operations insurance	-	807
Other paid expenses	-	117
<b>Total Prepayments</b>	<b>3,051</b>	<b>3,067</b>

## 8. Equipment

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Office furniture		
- At cost	81	849
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	(81)	(525)
	-	324
Computers and Laptops		
- At cost	3,713	2,173
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,221)	(481)
	2,492	1,692
	<b>2,492</b>	<b>2,016</b>

## 9. Payables

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Payable to suppliers	25,246	5,834
Payable to employees	-	-
Superannuation payable	1,126	7,594
<b>Total Payables</b>	<b>26,372</b>	<b>13,428</b>

## 10. Tax Liabilities

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
GST liability	6,446	11,289
Amounts withheld from salary and wages	812	4,540
	<b>7,258</b>	<b>15,829</b>

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## 11. Provisions

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Aggregate employee entitlements liability	-	7,585

## 12. Payment received in advance

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
NSW State Government Grant	122,500	122,500
Other Grants	2,780	12,737
	<b>125,280</b>	<b>135,237</b>

### 13. Reconciliation of Profit or Loss for the year to net cash from operating activities

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax	20,947	(42,427)
<i>Adjustments to reconcile to cash provided by operations</i>		
Changes and credits		
Depreciation	764	703
Changes in working capital items:		
Trade debtors	-	15,605
Inventory	(780)	7,807
Prepayments	16	2,350
Trade creditors	19,412	(377)
Other payables	(6,468)	2,507
Employee entitlements	(7,585)	144
Payment received in advance	(9,957)	(67,325)
Income tax and other tax liabilities	(8,571)	(14,526)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>7,778</b>	<b>(95,539)</b>

### 14. Events Subsequent to Reporting Date

There were no material post balance events which would affect the financial position of New South Wales Reconciliation Council.

### 15. Related Parties

There were no transactions conducted with related parties during the financial year.

## Responsible Entities' Declaration

In the opinion of the Responsible Entities of New South Wales Reconciliation Council:

1. The financial statements and notes to the financial statements of New South Wales Reconciliation Council are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009, including:
  - (a) Giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
  - (b) Complying with the Australian Accounting Standards outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009; and
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that New South Wales Reconciliation Council will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Responsible Entities



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Lindon Coombes  
Responsible Entity

Date: 01 December 2017



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Cecilia Anthony  
Responsible Entity

Date: 01 December 2017

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## Independent Auditors Report

### **To the members of New South Wales Reconciliation Council**

We have audited the accompanying financial report , being a special purpose financial report, of New South Wales Reconciliation Council (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30th June 2017, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes to the accounts.

### **Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Board of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An



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audit also includes evaluation the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness accounting estimates by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales). We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Independence**

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### **Qualification**

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practical for the association to maintain an effective system of internal control to measure the completeness and accuracy of receipts of subscriptions, cash donations (if any) and other fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to income and expenses was limited to amounts recorded.

### **Auditor's Opinion**

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial report of any such adjustments, if any, as might have been required had the limitation on our audit procedures referred to in the qualification paragraph not existed; the financial report of New South Wales Reconciliation Council is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) including:

1. Giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date: and
2. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) as disclosed in Note 1.



**Horwood Partners**  
**Simon Chhoeu, FCPA**

Sydney  
Date: 01 December 2017

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## Acknowledgements

As an independent, not-for-profit organisation, the NSW Reconciliation Council relies on support from all parts of the community. We would like to thank the following organisations for their support this year, and to acknowledge the important work they carry out in furthering reconciliation across NSW.

- Aboriginal Affairs NSW
  - Reconciliation Australia
  - Recognise
  - Lend Lease
  - Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences
  - Sydney Story Factory
  - National Trust
- National Center of Indigenous Excellence
- Cultural Perspectives Group
  - Centre for Cultural Competence Australia
  - ANTaR
  - Amnesty NSW

- Archer and Arrow Communications
- The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW
- NSW Teachers Federation
- Association of Independent Schools
- NSW Department of Education
- Catholic Education Commission NSW
- National Congress of Australia's First Peoples
- Mountains Outreach Community Service (MOCS)
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Multicultural NSW
- Local Government NSW
- Just Reinvest NSW
- Wingaru Education

Thank you also to all the individuals who donated time, money and/or resources to the NSW Reconciliation Council this year. Your assistance with events, projects and in the office has been invaluable.

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## **CONTACT US**

NSW Reconciliation Council

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[www.nswreconciliation.org.au](http://www.nswreconciliation.org.au)

[www.schoolsreconciliation.org.au](http://www.schoolsreconciliation.org.au)



NEW SOUTH WALES  
RECONCILIATION  
COUNCIL